

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure to the specification:

ABSTRACT

An ink cartridge has an ink storage chamber, an ink supply port and a negative pressure generating mechanism which selectively blocks and opens fluid communication between the ink storage chamber and the ink supply port as a consequence of ink consumption. The negative pressure generating mechanism includes an elastic member having first and second surfaces and a sealing portion, the sealing portion having a through-hole, an ink flow path communicating with the ink supply port and having an opening portion at a position where the sealing portion of the elastic member contacts with and separates from the opening portion, the opening portion facing the through-hole, and a communicating portion facing the first surface of the elastic member and communicating with the ink storage chamber. A space portion faces the second surface of the elastic member and communicates with the ink supply port.